UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER
WU, RUTAO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3639	

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/904,605	QURESHI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Rutao Wu	3639	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 July 2001*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 July 2001* is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1.   The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure

statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other

information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609 A(1) states, "the

list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate

paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form

PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Drawings

2.   The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4)

because reference characters "44" and "144" have both been used to designate

Browser Interface. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are

required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any

amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the

immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each

drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top

margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If

the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the

drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3.   The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show reference numbers 50, 52 and 58 as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4.   The drawings are objected to because reference number 39 is not in the specifications. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the

immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The

figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If

a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the

replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered

and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the

drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the

renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date

of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or

"New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the

examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in

the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5.   The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of
> making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the
> art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall
> set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6.   Claims 8 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to

comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter

which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to

one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed,

had possession of the claimed invention. No support for the said electronic workflow

corresponding to the electronic business cycle of each of said plurality of users was

given in the specifications.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8.   Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated

by Church et al, hereafter referred to as Church.

Church shows a method of data exchange that meets all the limitations. See the

respective portions of the specification.

Referring to claim 1:

a) a server computer connected to said interconnected network of computers,

said server computer comprising a data exchange means, wherein said data exchange

means provides:

i) a means for receiving and processing instructions corresponding to

business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users; (col 7: lines 5-8,

41-43, 52-56; col 8: 14-15; col 12: 1-3)

ii) a means for mapping data transactions; (col 4: 3-17; col 7: 13-17, 31-

33; col 8: 9-13; col 11: 26-28)

iii) a means for translating data transactions from and to a plurality of

electronic formats; (col 2: 41-45; col 3: 65-col 4: 2; col 5: 13-15; col 7: 18-19; col

8: 11-13; col 11: 29-33)

iv) a data transaction repository for receiving and processing instructions

for deployment of data transactions; and (col 4: 34-36, 50-52; col 11: 40)

v) an electronic commerce means for processing data transactions, said

electronic commerce means being responsive to said data transaction repository

and the business rules so as to process data transactions in accordance with

said business rules. (col 3: 38-45; col 4: 20-23; col 5: 1-5; col 11: 47-48)

Referring to claim 2:

Said system further comprising a database for storing data generated by said

data exchange means. (col 2: 32-45; col 3: 57-60; col 4: 3-5, 18-20, 33-35, 50-53; col 5:

32-36, 63-67; col 6: 1-3)

Referring to claim 3:

wherein said data exchange means comprises an application repository of

integrated utilities said integrated utilities providing a means for receiving and

processing instructions corresponding to business rules corresponding to each of said

plurality of users; (col 7: lines 5-8, 41-43, 52-56; col 8: 14-15; col 12: 1-3) a means for

mapping data transactions; (col 4: 3-17; col 7: 13-17, 31-33; col 8: 9-13; col 11: 26-28)

a means for translating data transactions from and to a plurality of electronic formats;

(col 2: 41-45; col 3: 65-col 4: 2; col 5: 13-15; col 7: 18-19; col 8: 11-13; col 11: 29-33) a

data transaction repository for receiving and processing instructions for deployment of

data transactions; (col 4: 34-36, 50-52; col 11: 40) and an electronic commerce means

for processing data transactions, said electronic commerce means being responsive to

said data transaction repository and the business rules so as to process data

transactions in accordance with said business rules. (col 3: 38-45; col 4: 20-23; col 5: 1-

5; col 11: 47-48)

Referring to claim 5:

Wherein said server computer is responsive to data received from said plurality

of computers regardless of the electronic format of such data; and wherein said server

computer sends data to said plurality of computers in an electronic format understood

by each of said plurality of computers. (col 2: 46-50; col 4: 33-38; col 5: 6-9; col 11: 13-

21; col 12: 30-36)

Referring to claim 6:

Wherein said server computer further comprises a display means for displaying

data generated by said data exchange means to each of said plurality of users in

accordance with the business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users. (col

4: 52-56; col 11: 43-45; col 12: 43-46, 65-66)

Referring to claim 7:

Wherein said display means permits each of said plurality of users to access and

process data generated by said data exchange means in accordance with the business

rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users. (col 4: 21-25, 52-56; col 11: 47-48;

col 12: 43-46)

Referring to claim 8:

Wherein said data exchange means further comprises a means for receiving and processing instructions defining an electronic workflow in said data exchange means, said electronic workflow corresponding to the electronic business cycle of each of said plurality of users. (col 11: 49-63; col 12: 7-10)

Referring to claim 9:

a) a security means for providing data security; (col 1: 65-67; col 2: 24-27; col 7: 29-31; col 4: 25-45)

b) a data exchange administration means for automated administration of security, user profiles and preferences; (col 2: 24-27; col 7: 29-31)

c) an extraction means for extracting data generated by said data exchange means from said database; (col 4: 3-10; col 4: 56-60; col 6: 25-28)

d) a reporting means for providing said plurality of users with reports based on said data generated by said data exchange means; and (col 4: 43-45; col 9: 60-63; col 13: 1-2; col 13: 28-31)

e) a data archive means for extracting archive data from said database related to data transactions processed by said data exchange means. (col 6: 25-28; col 4: 56-60)

Referring to claim 10:

a) a server computer product adapted to facilitate communication between said server computer and an interconnected network of computers, said server computer product comprising a data exchange means, wherein said data exchange means cooperates with a database to provide: (col 3: 25-37)

i) a means for receiving and processing instructions corresponding to business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users; (col 7: lines 5-8, 41-43, 52-56; col 8: 14-15; col 12: 1-3)

ii) a means for mapping data transactions; (col 4: 3-17; col 7: 13-17, 31-33; col 8: 9-13; col 11: 26-28)

iii) a means for translating data transactions from and to a plurality of electronic formats; (col 2: 41-45; col 3: 65-col 4: 2; col 5: 13-15; col 7: 18-19; col 8: 11-13; col 11: 29-33)

iv) a data transaction repository for receiving and processing instructions for deployment of data transactions; and (col 4: 34-36, 50-52; col 11: 40)

v) an electronic commerce means for processing data transactions, said electronic commerce means being responsive to said data transaction repository and the business rules so as to process data transactions in accordance with said business rules; and (col 3: 38-45; col 4: 20-23; col 5: 1-5; col 11: 47-48)

b) a facility for storing data generated by said data exchange means to said database. (col 2: 32-45; col 3: 57-60; col 4: 3-5, 18-20, 33-35, 50-53; col 5: 32-36, 63-67; col 6: 1-3, 63-64)

Referring to claim 11:

wherein said data exchange means comprises an application repository of integrated utilities said integrated utilities providing a means for receiving and processing instructions corresponding to business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users; (col 7: lines 5-8, 41-43, 52-56; col 8: 14-15; col 12: 1-3) a means for

mapping data transactions; (col 4: 3-17; col 7: 13-17, 31-33; col 8: 9-13; col 11: 26-28) a

means for translating data transactions from and to a plurality of electronic formats; (col

2: 41-45; col 3: 65-col 4: 2; col 5: 13-15; col 7: 18-19; col 8: 11-13; col 11: 29-33) a data

transaction repository for receiving and processing instructions for deployment of data

transactions; (col 4: 34-36, 50-52; col 11: 40) and an electronic commerce means for

processing data transactions, said electronic commerce means being responsive to said

data transaction repository and the business rules so as to process data transactions in

accordance with said business rules. (col 3: 38-45; col 4: 20-23; col 5: 1-5; col 11: 47-

48)

Referring to claim 13:

Wherein said computer product is responsive to data received from said plurality

of users regardless of the electronic format of such data. (col 2: 46-50; col 4: 33-38; col

5: 6-9; col 11: 13-21; col 12: 30-36)

Referring to claim 14:

Wherein said computer product further comprises a display means for displaying

data generated by said data exchange means to each of said plurality of users in

accordance with the business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users. (col

4: 52-56; col 11: 43-45; col 12: 43-46, 65-66)

Referring to claim 15:

Wherein said display means permits each of said plurality of users to access and

process data generated by said data exchange means in accordance with the business

rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users. (col 4: 21-25, 52-56; col 11: 47-48; col 12: 43-46)

Referring to claim 16:

Wherein said data exchange means further comprises a means for receiving and processing instructions corresponding to workflow in said data exchange means, said workflow corresponding to the electronic business cycle of each of said plurality of users. (col 11: 49-63; col 12: 7-10)

Referring to claim 17:

a) a security means for providing data security; (col 1: 65-67; col 2: 24-27; col 7: 29-31; col 4: 25-45)

b) a data exchange administration means for automated administration of security, user profiles and preferences; (col 2: 24-27; col 7: 29-31)

c) an extraction means for extracting data generated by said data exchange means from said database; (col 4: 3-10; col 4: 56-60; col 6: 25-28)

d) a reporting means for providing said plurality of users with reports based on said data generated by said data exchange means; and (col 4: 43-45; col 9: 60-63; col 13: 1-2; col 13: 28-31)

e) a data archive means for extracting archive data from said database related to data transactions processed by said data exchange means. (col 6: 25-28; col 4: 56-60)

Referring to claim 18:

a) a server computer connected to said interconnected network of computers, said server computer comprising a data exchange means, wherein said data exchange means provides:

i) a means for receiving and processing instructions corresponding to business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users; (col 7: lines 5-8, 41-43, 52-56; col 8: 14-15; col 12: 1-3)

ii) a means for mapping data transactions; (col 4: 3-17; col 7: 13-17, 31-33; col 8: 9-13; col 11: 26-28)

iii) a means for translating data transactions from and to a plurality of electronic formats; (col 2: 41-45; col 3: 65-col 4: 2; col 5: 13-15; col 7: 18-19; col 8: 11-13; col 11: 29-33)

iv) a data transaction repository for receiving and processing instructions for deployment of data transactions; and (col 4: 34-36, 50-52; col 11: 40)

v) an electronic commerce means for processing data transactions, said electronic commerce means being responsive to said data transaction repository and the business rules so as to process data transactions in accordance with said business rules (col 3: 38-45; col 4: 20-23; col 5: 1-5; col 11: 47-48)

wherein said data exchange means and database are integrated so that data flows freely between said data exchange means and database. (col 2: 32-45; col 3: 25-37, 57-60; col 4: 3-5, 18-20, 33-35, 50-53; col 5: 32-36, 63-67)

Referring to claim 19:

a) determining the business rules of said plurality of users; (col 3: 43-53)

b) customizing a data exchange means in accordance with said business rules, said data exchange means comprising:

i) a means for receiving and processing instructions corresponding to business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users; (col 7: lines 5-8, 41-43, 52-56; col 8: 14-15; col 12: 1-3)

ii) a means for mapping data transactions; (col 4: 3-17; col 7: 13-17, 31-33; col 8: 9-13; col 11: 26-28)

iii) a means for translating data transactions from and to a plurality of electronic formats; (col 2: 41-45; col 3: 65-col 4: 2; col 5: 13-15; col 7: 18-19; col 8: 11-13; col 11: 29-33)

iv) a data transaction repository for receiving and processing instructions for deployment of data transactions; and (col 4: 34-36, 50-52; col 11: 40)

v) an electronic commerce means for processing data transactions, said electronic commerce means being responsive to said data transaction repository and the business rules so as to process data transactions in accordance with said business rules. (col 3: 38-45; col 4: 20-23; col 5: 1-5; col 11: 47-48)

c) providing access to the data exchange means to said plurality of users through an interconnected network of computers. (col 3: 25-37)

Referring to claim 20:

a) determining the business rules of said plurality of users; (col 3: 43-53)

b) customizing a data exchange means in accordance with said business rules, said data exchange means comprising:

i) a means for receiving and processing instructions corresponding to business rules corresponding to each of said plurality of users; (col 7: lines 5-8, 41-43, 52-56; col 8: 14-15; col 12: 1-3)

ii) a means for mapping data transactions; (col 4: 3-17; col 7: 13-17, 31-33; col 8: 9-13; col 11: 26-28)

iii) a means for translating data transactions from and to a plurality of electronic formats; ; (col 2: 41-45; col 3: 65-col 4: 2; col 5: 13-15; col 7: 18-19; col 8: 11-13; col 11: 29-33)

iv) a data transaction repository for receiving and processing instructions for deployment of data transactions; and (col 4: 34-36, 50-52; col 11: 40)

v) an electronic commerce means for processing data transactions, said electronic commerce means being responsive to said data transaction repository and the business rules so as to process data transactions in accordance with said business rules. (col 3: 38-45; col 4: 20-23; col 5: 1-5; col 11: 47-48)

c) providing access to the data exchange means to said plurality of users through an interconnected network of computers; and (col 3: 25-37)

d) customization of the data exchange means so as to permit each of said plurality of users to access data generated by said data exchange means in accordance with user requirements by means of a custom interface. (col 4: 53-56; col 5: 18; col 6: 10; col 11: 43-45)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   Claims 4 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Church in view of U.S. Pat No. 6,591,306 to Redlich and in further view of U.S. Pub No.

2002/0162032 to Gundersen et al. Church does not explicitly state that his invention is

in accordance with open standards architecture. The examiner takes office notice that

building a data exchange system through an interconnected network of computers with

an open standards architecture is well known to individuals skilled in the art. Examples

can be found in Redlich who states that one example of a well-known computer

communications architecture is the open systems interconnection (OSI) model (column

5, lines 21-23). Also Gundersen discloses in his application known open standard

protocols such as Ethernet or TCP/IP [0044].

Conclusion

11.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to

data exchange of electronic commerce:
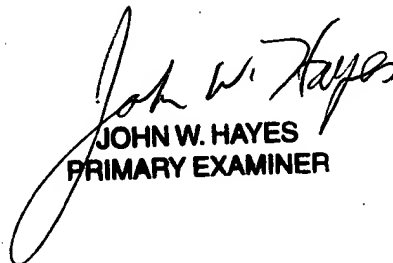
U.S. Pat No. 4,586,134 to Norstedt

U.S. Pat No. 4,951,196 to Jackson

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rutao Wu whose telephone number is (571)272-3136. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571)272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

rw

JOHN W. HAYES
PRIMARY EXAMINER